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NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE DAILY CABLE

Tuesday 13 December 1977 CG NIDC 77/288C

NATIONAL SECURITY INFORMATION  
Unauthorized Disclosure Subject to Criminal Sanctions

State Dept. review completed

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National Intelligence Daily Cable for Tuesday, 13 December 1977.

[REDACTED] The NID Cable is for the purpose of informing senior US officials.

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### TURKEY: First Election Results

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[redacted] //Preliminary results from Turkey's municipal elections on Sunday indicate that opposition leader Ecevit's Republican People's Party has greatly increased the number of provincial capitals under its control, gaining nine mayorships for a total of 42. Prime Minister Demirel's Justice Party stands to lose seven or eight mayoral contests, leaving it with 14 or 15. The election results will exacerbate the dissent that has already weakened Demirel's coalition.//

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[redacted] //Ballots from many rural areas, the Justice Party's traditional stronghold, remain uncounted. The party's loss of around a third of its principal mayorships is nonetheless a serious blow to Demirel's party.//

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[redacted] //Demirel is scheduled to meet today with his parliamentary group. During this meeting, Justice Party dissenters, disturbed by strife within the coalition and by the election defeats, may demand an end to the coalition, perhaps calling for some form of cooperation with Ecevit. The resignation of three Justice deputies from the party even before the results of the elections were known underscores the seriousness of Demirel's position.//

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[redacted] //The Justice Party has so far denied that the three deputies have resigned, probably in hopes of persuading them to rejoin party ranks. If this effort fails, Demirel's coalition would have only a one-vote majority in parliament. Further defections could set the stage for the fall of the government, although Ecevit would have problems of his own in putting together a stable majority.

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### ECUADOR: New Election Date

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[redacted] Ecuador's military government has announced a new date for the presidential election and has revised its guidelines for returning the country to constitutional government.

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[redacted] In a speech last week, Poveda affirmed that a new president would be elected on 16 July. His announcement removed much of the uncertainty surrounding a government decision last month to postpone the election, which had been projected for mid-April. Poveda strongly reiterated his pledge for an unqualified return to civilian rule by the end of next year.

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[redacted] An announcement on Saturday of revised election guidelines provided an additional note of assurance about the government's intentions. The guidelines stipulated that a civilian tribunal headed by highly respected former President Galo Plaza will oversee the election.

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[redacted] The new guidelines do not exclude controversial populist leader Assad Bucaram, whose presidential candidacy has become the most divisive election issue. The many officers implacably opposed to Bucaram considered the election guidelines the last legal way to deny him a place on the ballot.

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[redacted] //Because no viable alternative to Bucaram has yet emerged, these officers now will probably redouble their efforts to thwart the election process through extra-legal means. Supreme Council member General Duran and Minister of Government Jarrin, for example, are continuing their efforts to delay a return to civilian rule, but they still appear to lack the high-level support necessary to succeed.//

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[redacted]

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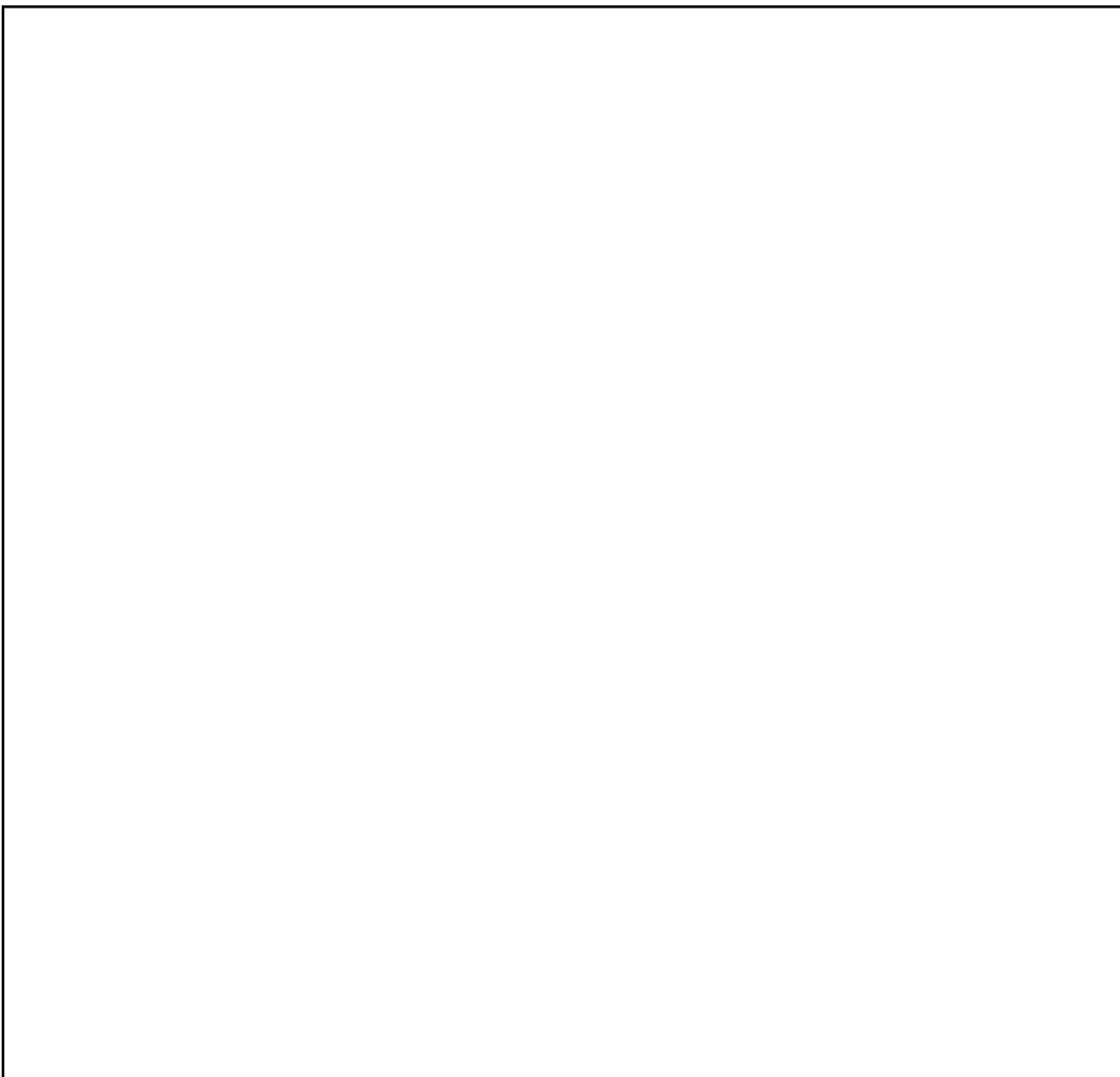
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[redacted]

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USSR

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[redacted] A Yugoslav correspondent in Moscow has advised the US Embassy that President and General Secretary Brezhnev may make "radical" economic proposals at a party Central Committee plenum today or at the Supreme Soviet meeting tomorrow.

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[redacted] The unusual announcement earlier this month of a meeting of the apparatus of the Supreme Soviet Presidium lends some credence to the Yugoslav's speculation. The meeting, which featured a speech by Brezhnev, was attended by party secretaries Chernenko and Kapitonov, who are not members of the Presidium. Their special interest in management and cadres suggests that some changes in the ministerial system may be in the offing. [redacted]

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